

STRAYJAY FILMS PRESENTS, IN ASSOCIATION WITH LUNAR PRODUCTIONS, LUMIN8 PRODUCTIONS, AND CREATIVE CYPHER

RICARDO

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY ROBERTO JAY CO-DIRECTED BY DANIEL JOSEPH FORD STARRING MICHEL CURIEL ROBERTO JAY ERICA MENDEZ
JENNIFER CUDAHY CARLO APARÓ PRODUCED BY CRISTOPHER WILLIAMS TROY PRYOR MIKE ABRANTIE CHARLES BORG
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JESSICA TOLLIVER



A FILM BY
ROBERTO JAY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chicago based filmmaker heads to Miami to screen his newly released film at the Urban Film Festival during Labor Day weekend

*Filmmaker Roberto Jay's film, **Ricardo**, has been selected for one of Miami's largest international events. **Ricardo** is a film about the challenges of being a multicultural person in America.*

CHICAGO + MIAMI – During Labor Day weekend, Chicago based Filmmaker, Writer and Director **Roberto Jay** will travel to Miami, Florida for the city's annual Urban Film Festival, running for over 10 years in the country's second largest metropolitan area in the Southeastern United States and the second largest city in Florida. Roberto Jay will be screening his film, **Ricardo**, a film where Roberto Jay shares his life as a multiethnic young man being raised by parents of both Italian and Puerto Rican descent. Roberto Jay used his own life's challenges growing up in carouse neighborhoods in Chicago as a biracial youth.

"Miami is truly a melting pot of people, so this film should really resonate with the people there," said Roberto Jay. "I am excited to travel South to share this story beyond Chicago. **Ricardo** is a film that many people across the country who identify as biracial can relate to."

Miami's Urban Film Festival (UFF) is a three-day event held every Labor Day weekend, celebrating culturally driven stories, like the film **Ricardo**.

Roberto Jay just hosted his film premiere of **Ricardo** at SoHo House Chicago in June as part of Creative Cypher's XL Film Screenings, a local entertainment ecosystem in Chicago that helped finance the short film through its kickstarter campaign for local emerging filmmakers.

Roberto Jay wrote, directed and stars in *Ricardo*. The character, Ricardo, is biracial actor in his early 30's, existing in the uncomfortable in-between—too ethnic for some rooms, not "ethnic enough" for others.

"So much of this film is my own life. And it took a lot of bravery to share myself in this way," said Roberto Jay. "Many mixed children feel confused about where they may fit, and this film can help people better understand the importance of inclusion in all spaces.

"In some places it seemed as though I wasn't Italian enough, and in other places it seemed as if I wasn't Puerto Rican enough," said Roberto Jay.

Hosted across Historic Overtown and Downtown Miami, UFF doubles as the ultimate business-vacation destination, where great networking meets unforgettable parties in one of the world's most vibrant cities.

Roberto Jay arrives in Miami on Friday, September 4th and departs on Labor Day, Monday, September 7th. Roberto Jay is open to in-person Chicago interviews prior to his departure on Friday, September 4th and virtual interviews and live-streaming during his stay in Miami. Roberto is available for in-person interviews while in Miami from Saturday, September 5th until Monday, September 7th.

For media inquiries, contact Roberto Jay's Publicist, Vee. L Harrison, at veelharrison@gmail.com or call [331-258-4962](tel:331-258-4962).